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3-31-03

Atty. Dkt. No.: P60752US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Manfred EIGEN et al.

Serial No.: 08/750,715

Group Art Unit: 2856

Filed: March 19, 1997

Examiner: NOLAND, Thomas

For: A METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE SELECTIVE WITHDRAWAL OF CONTENTS
FROM COMPLEX MIXTURES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant submits the instant Amendment, together with a request for continued examination (RCE) in response to the Office Action mailed May 17, 2002.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 6, please delete the first paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

The method permits the withdrawal of one or a few components of a system, such as molecules, molecular complexes, vesicles, miscelles, cells, optionally embedded in an associated volume element (withdrawal volume), $V (10^{-9} \text{ l} \geq V \geq 10^{-18} \text{ l})$. This volume element is part of a larger volume of an environment which contains the small components to be withdrawn (sample volume). The withdrawal is effected by transferring the component or components to another

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is correlated with the small component to be withdrawn. The analytical methods which may be used are those by which the molecular contents of smallest volume elements (10^{-14} l) can be analyzed as

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